OVERVIEW OF GRANT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES FOR 2009-2010

Important Dates for 2009-2010 LSTA Grant Programs	
September 16, 2008	Guidelines and Letter of Intent application available for Project Grants
November 18, 2008	Letters of Intent (LOI) due for Project Grants [LOI is not required for EZ category grants]
December 18, 2008	Approval of Letters of Intent announced; application forms provided to approved libraries
December 18, 2008	EZ Grants - Guidelines and applications available
February 19, 2009	ALL PROPOSALS DUE – Project Grants and EZ Grants
June 12, 2009	Grant awards announced at http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm

The 2009-2010 grant programs outlined in this Overview are aligned with the State Library of North Carolina's *Library Services and Technology Act Five-Year Plan 2008-201*2 and its goals.

Summary of Goals

The State Library of North Carolina's *Library Services and Technology Act Five-Year Plan for 2008 – 2012* (http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/plan2008-12.pdf) consists of three goals. Each of these goals, listed below, is related to one or more of the six LSTA purposes, is based on identified need, and strives toward excellence and equity in North Carolina's libraries.

1. Enrich the lives of North Carolinians through enhanced and targeted programs and services in our libraries that address the needs of specific audiences.

2. Enhance information for lifelong learning for all North Carolinians by expanding the information resources in our state's libraries through strengthening, sharing, digitizing and preserving our valuable and unique collections.

3. Promote equal access to 21st century library services for all North Carolinians by providing contemporary and evolving technologies to our state's libraries through programs designed to address infrastructure, resources, and services.

Project Grants -- *Letter of Intent (LOI) Required*

Project Grants have a two-step process, requiring a preliminary Letter of Intent (LOI). These grants are for more complex projects that address locally defined needs and priorities, and are generally funded at a higher level than EZ Grants. (Information about EZ Grants appears on page 3.)
The LSTA Advisory Committee sets criteria for each Project Grant as part of the annual program for LSTA in North Carolina. The LSTA Advisory Committee reviews the Letters of Intent and makes recommendations based on those criteria following preliminary review by State Library staff and, in some instances, peer reviewers. If a library's LOI is approved, then it is invited to submit a full application. State Library staff, as well as peer reviewers, evaluate full grant applications. The LSTA Advisory Committee reviews the full applications and reviewers' ratings and makes its funding recommendations to the State Librarian.

Below is a summary of the three Project Grants for 2009-2010. These grants require a Letter of Intent (an actual application form), which is due November 18, 2008. Complete information & guidelines and the Letter of Intent application form will be available at http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/2009-2010Grants.htm . Full applications from approved libraries are due February 19, 2009.

PROJECT GRANT PROGRAMS BY TOPIC	ELIGIBLE LIBRARIES	MAXIMUM / MINIMUM GRANT REQUEST	MATCH REQUIREMENT
Programs and Services			
Library Outreach Services Grants Grants to support library services and programs for targeted audiences that are unserved or underserved. Services must be based on an analysis and assessment of local needs. Single year or multiyear projects allowable.	Public & academic libraries, including public, private & community college libraries. <u>Public school libraries</u> and <u>public school district media services departments</u>.	Maximum: $50,000 annually for a single library system; $100,000 annually for a collaborative project of multiple library systems Minimum: $5,000 annually	Percent of grant amount requested: Year 1, 10% ($1 for $10) Year 2, 25% ($1 for $4) Year 3, 50% ($1 for $2)

EZ Grants -- *Letter of Intent Not Required*

With a simplified application process, EZ Grants are used for programs with clearly defined purposes and outcomes. The LSTA Advisory Committee sets criteria for each EZ Grant as part of the annual program for LSTA in North Carolina. State Library staff review EZ applications and determine funding decisions based on those criteria. Applicants have the opportunity to appeal funding decisions to the LSTA Advisory Committee. EZ Grants do not require a Letter of Intent.

Below is a summary of the four EZ Grant programs for 2009-2010. Full information on these grants will be released on December 18, 2008, and available then at http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/2009-2010Grants.htm . Applications are due on February 19, 2009.

EZ GRANT PROGRAMS BY TOPIC	ELIGIBLE LIBRARIES	MAXIMUM / MINIMUM GRANT REQUEST	MATCH REQUIREMENT
Information Resources and Collections			
School Library Collection Development Grants Grants to provide assistance to public school library media centers in building strong curriculum-related print book collections that are accurate, current, and attractive.	Public school libraries that have not received this grant in the last three years (2006-2007, 2007-2008, & 2008-2009).	$10,000 / $1,000	25% of grant amount requested ($1 for $4)
Planning			
Planning Grants Grants to support planning for programs/services, including space planning where appropriate; technology planning, including planning for integrated automated library systems; and project planning – i.e. carrying out needs assessments and collaborative planning prior to applying for an LSTA Project grant. Funds may be used for consulting assistance and some other expenses depending upon the nature of the project. [This is a new single planning category that combines three previous grant programs: Planning, Technology Planning, and LSTA Project Planning. This grant is offered in two rounds annually. A library system may apply for only one planning grant in each grant round.]	Public & academic libraries, including public, private & community college libraries. Public school libraries and public school district media services departments. Qualified state agency libraries. Qualified special libraries. If planning for an LSTA Project grant, libraries must qualify for the full grant program for which they would plan.	Maximum: $20,000 for a single library system; $35,000 for a collaborative project of multiple library systems Minimum: None	None